

URBAN DISTRICT OF STREET

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(including the Report of the Public Health Inspector)

FOR THE YEAR

1968

CONTENTSPage

Agricultural (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions)	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
Caravans and Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Cemetery	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Certain Vital Statistics	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Clean Air Act, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Death, Causes of	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Details of Abnormalities Detected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factories Act, 1937 - 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Food Poisoning Notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Hygiene (Gen.) Regulation, 1960	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Food Hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
General Statistics	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infant Mortality Rates	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Main Vital Statistics	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Mass Radiography Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
National Assistance Act, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Notes on Vital Statistics for 1966	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Notifiable Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Premises where Food is prepared	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Shops, Offices & Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Swimming Pools	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

URBAN DISTRICT OF STREET

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1968

Tel: (Office) Wells 3379
(Residence) Wells 2643

Area Health Department,
St. Lawrence Lodge,
37 Chamberlain Street,
WELLS.
BA5 2PQ.

To the Chairman and Members of the Street Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report for 1968 in accordance with instructions laid down by the new Department of Health and Social Security which took office in November.

Changes also took place during the year in the public health services of the District, in that the Area Health Department, with the help of the County Health Department, moved in mid-September to more suitable premises at the above address which have also proved more central for access from the six constituent authorities of Area "C".

The vital statistics show birth and death rates better than the County or National figures but stillbirth and infant mortality rates were not as good. There was again no maternal mortality and notifiable infectious diseases were, apart from measles, conspicuous by their absence. Changes took place during the year in the legislation affecting notifiable diseases in that the Public Health (Infective Jaundice) Regulations 1968 came into operation on 15th June 1968, and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968, in which certain infectious diseases were deleted from the list of those to be notified and some were added, took effect on 1st October, but they had little impact on the numbers of cases notified by the end of the year.

I am grateful to the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor for his report on the environmental health aspects and join with him in congratulating the Council on the emphasis which it has placed on the housing of elderly citizens.

My thanks are due to all the Officers of the Council for their continued co-operation and to members of the Council and colleagues in the town for their constant support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. CLARE.
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1968

Area of Urban District (in acres)	3,069
Estimated Population (mid-year 1968)	8,040
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at 31/12/68) ..	2,753
Rateable Value	(as at 31/3/68) ...£312,007
Product of a Penny Rate... (as at 31/3/68) ...	£1,260.

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968

(The figures in general are too small for much importance to be attached to them but certain broad statements can be made).

Population

The large increase of 490 over the mid-year population of 1967 was estimated by the Registrar-General, and births exceeded deaths by 62.

Births

Live Births - fell by 8 compared with the previous year, but the Corrected Birth Rate remained higher than the County or National figures. Illegitimate births rose by 3 but the percentage of these was no higher than the County average.

Still Births - totalled 1 more than in 1967, giving a Still Birth Rate slightly higher than the County and National equivalents.

Deaths

All ages - rose by 7 above the 1967 total, but the death rate, even when increased by the Area Deaths Comparability Factor, remained below the Somerset and England & Wales averages.

Infant Deaths - increased by 1 over total for the previous year, causing the Infant Mortality Rate to be higher than the County or National rates, but the Neonatal, Early Neonatal and Perinatal Mortality Rates were lower.

Maternal Mortality - again there was none in the District.

Causes of Death

Cardio-Vascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases - caused the greatest number of deaths (38), 1 more than in 1967. The heart diseases accounted for 26 of these and cerebrovascular diseases for 10.

Cancer - again took second place, with 14 deaths - 1 more than in 1967. As regards site, lung and bronchus was the site of choice for 4 cases of cancer and breast for 2.

Respiratory Diseases - deaths from these increased by 4 to 9 this year, pneumonia causing 6 and influenza 2.

Accidents - were again the cause of 1 death and involved a motor vehicle.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

It will be seen from the 5-Year Table that measles continues to be an important cause of morbidity in young children despite the current use of measles vaccination.

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ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

No cases of food poisoning or human salmonella infection were reported in the District during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SEC.47) & AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

No case occurred during the year requiring action under the provision of these Acts.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

The Mass Radiography Service Unit visited the Northside Car Park at regular fortnightly intervals throughout the year, for the benefit of general practitioner cases. The number of these cases in the total given below was 296 and results were as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Number examined	394	437	831
Abnormalities detected	21	13	34

DETAILS OF ABNORMALITIES DETECTED

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Observation		1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Healed	1	-	1
Bronchial Carcinoma	1	-	1
Goitre	1	-	1
Bronchitis & Emphysema	9	2	11
Mitral Stenosis	-	1	1
Cardiac Lesion Acquired	2	4	6
Cardiac Enlargement	2	1	3
Cystic Bronchiectasis	-	1	1
Bronchitis & Cardiac Failure	1	-	1
Hiatus Hernia	-	1	1
Hypertensive Heart	1	1	2
Pulmonary Fibrosis	1	-	1
Abnormality of Diaphragm	-	1	1
Hypertension	1	-	1
Pneumonitis	1	-	1

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1968
(As given by the Registrar-General)

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks. & under 1 yr.	1-5-	5-15-	15-25-	25-35-	35-45-	45-55-	55-65-	65-75 & upwards
Malignant Neoplasms	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1
- Lung, Bronchus	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasms												
- Breast	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Malignant	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Neoplasms	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-
Diabetes Mellitus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mental Disorders	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of the Nervous System	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms & Ill-Defined Conditions	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total all causes	M	36	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	9	13
	F	35	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	8

CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD 1964-1968
WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR SOMERSET AND ENGLAND AND WALES

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
<u>1. Corrected Birth Rate</u>					
Street U.D.C.	18.1	17.2	18.64	18.1	17.3
Somerset	16.86	16.76	17.86	17.7	16.9
England & Wales	18.4	18.0	17.7	17.2	16.9
<u>2. Corrected Death Rate</u>					
Street U.D.C.	10.7	8.08	12.05	8.86	10.2
Somerset	10.62	10.18	10.37	10.1	10.9
England & Wales	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9
<u>3. Infant Mortality Rate</u>					
Street U.D.C.	15.0	7.75	6.99	14.2	22.6
Somerset	13.0	10.75	15.12	14.0	15.6
England & Wales	20.0	19.0	19.0	18.3	18.0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(5 year period 1964-1968)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>				
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Measles	3	127	6	261	162
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	2	-	2	-	-
Tuberculosis - Non Respiratory	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	9	127	8	261	163

MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968

(With comparative figures for Somerset and England and Wales where available)

BIRTHS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>	<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England and Wales</u> <u>(Provisional)</u>
Legitimate	66	59	125			8305	
Illegitimate	3	5	8			561	
Totals	69	64	133			8866	819,275
Rate per 1,000 population				16.5	17.3	16.9	16.9
(Area Births Comparability Factor 1.05)						(Corrected)	
Ratio of local corrected rate to national rate 1.03							
<u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS</u>							
(per cent of total live births)				6.01		6.33	

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	--	2	2				
Illegitimate	--	--	--				
Totals	--	2	2			126	11,847
Rate per 1,000 live & still births				14.8		13.83	14.0

TOTAL LIVE & STILL BIRTHS

69	66	135				8992	831,122
----	----	-----	--	--	--	------	---------

DEATHS

<u>TOTAL DEATHS</u> (all ages)	36	35	71			7531	576,601
Rate per 1,000 population				8.8	10.2	10.9	11.9
(Area Deaths Comparability Factor 1.16)						(Corrected)	
Ratio of local corrected death rate to national rate 0.86.							

INFANT DEATHS

(under 1 year)

Legitimate	1	2	3			127	
Illegitimate	--	--	--			12	
Totals	1	2	3			139	14,952

(Under 4 weeks)

Legitimate	1	--	1				
Illegitimate	--	--	--				
Totals	1	--	1			99	10,100

(Under 1 week)

Legitimate	1	--	1				
Illegitimate	--	--	--				
Totals	1	--	1			83	8,600

<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>	<u>STREET U.D.</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England & Wales</u> (Provisional)
	<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Total Infant deaths per 1,000				
Total Live births	22.6		15.6	18.0
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000				
Legitimate live births. ...	24.0		15.29	
Illegitimate Infant deaths per				
1,000 illegitimate live births.	NIL		21.39	
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES</u>				
(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000				
total live births.	7.52		11.02	12.3
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
(deaths under 1 week per 1,000				
total live births)	7.52		9.3	10.5
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
(Still births & deaths under 1 week				
combined per 1,000 live & still				
births)	22.2		23.24	25.0
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY (Including abortion)</u>				
Number of deaths	NIL		1	
Rate per 1,000 total live &				
still births.	NIL		0.11	

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT
1968

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection of the food premises made during the year showed that the general improvement made over the past few years is being maintained and that the traders are aware of the need of hygienic methods in the food trade.

CEMETERY

33 burials took place during the year.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The irrigation sprays have continued to maintain the improvement in the effluent and it is satisfying to know that the final effluent is of such a high standard having regard to the present overloading of the sewage disposal works.

Consultants have been engaged to prepare a scheme for the improvement of both the sewage disposal works and sewage system of the district.

Middle Brooks was sewered during the year and will result in a reduction in the number of cesspools within the Urban district.

SWIMMING POOLS

- (a) Greenbank Swimming Pool - this pool was well maintained during the year and samples prove satisfactory;
- (b) Millfield School Swimming Pool - this was inspected during the year and found to be maintained to a high standard.

HOUSING

During the year 17 bed-sitting room accommodation and 11 houses were completed by the Council; 126 houses and bungalows were completed by private enterprise.

It is encouraging to note that the total of privately completed houses is fast approaching the number of Council houses completed since the war.

The Council's policy in the coming year is to concentrate on the provision of accommodation for aged persons.

I think the Council should be complimented on its achievement in providing such a large number of units for aged persons, all of which are supervised by resident wardens.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

No. of Discretionary Grants approved during the year ... 2

No. of Standard Grants approved during the year ... 7

Every encouragement is offered to owners to apply for improvement grants and this year's figures are most disappointing. It is to be hoped that with the advent of the Housing Act, 1969, greater advantage will be taken of the new provisions which will extend the usual life of a great number of older properties and so avoid the necessity of building Council houses to replace worn out houses.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

A 100% inspection of all carcasses was carried out during the year.

The standard of hygiene and the quality of meat in the two licensed slaughterhouses within the district is very high and, in my opinion, comparable to any of the larger factory slaughterhouses.

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year:—

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed (if known)	157	—	1	331	422	—
Number inspected	157	—	1	331	422	—
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	—	—	5	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	10.82	—	—	1.5	.47	—
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	.47	—

Slaughterhouses (Contd.)

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-</u>						
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	16	-
(b) Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Other	192	-	-	10	5	-
Total (in lbs.) condemned	192	-	-	10	21	-

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATION, 1960

The following Food Premises are subject to the above Regulations:-

<u>Shops</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No.fitted to comply with Reg.16 i.e., wash-hand basins</u>	<u>No.to which Reg.19 applies, i.e.facilities for washing food and equip- ment</u>	<u>No.complying with Reg.19</u>
Butcher	6	6	6	6
Bakers	4	4	4	4
Cafes	6	6	6	6
Dairies	3	3	3	3
Fish & Chip	3	3	3	3
Groceries	18	18	18	18
Swee	9	9	9	9
	<u>49</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>49</u>

PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED:

No. registered under Section 16 of the
Food & Drugs Act, 1955

... Ice Cream ... 30

(Ice Cream, Manufactured Meat Products etc.) Man. Meat Products ... 3

No. of Poultry Processing premises within the district ... Nil

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

2 informal notices were served during the year and ready co-operation was received from the industrialists.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS)

No action was taken during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - 1961

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Reg.</u>	<u>Inspect- ions</u>	<u>No. of Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	29	121	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total:	33	125	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - 1961

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Number of cases in which defects were found</u>				<u>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u>
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Reme- died</u>	<u>Referred To HM Insp- ector</u>	<u>By HM Insp- ector</u>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp.(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	Verbal notifications were made at times of inspection in respect of minor infringements			
Number of Outworkers required by Section 133 (1) (c)	-	Workers	...	171	

CARAVANS & CAMPING SITES

Two licences are in force for three caravans

RATS & MICE

58 properties were treated for rats and mice in addition to the regular treatment of dumps, sewage works and sewers.

SHOPS, OFFICES & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

72 premises are registered with the Council.

During the year regular inspections were made and it was found necessary to take informal action to provide adequate heating in two instances and the provision of seating and thermometers in two instances.

WATER SUPPLY

Regular samples were taken throughout the year for bacteriological and chemical analyses of the public water supply and in every case the report was satisfactory.

The supply was found to be inadequate in the case of the Brooks Road area and the Bristol Waterworks Company have plans afoot for increasing the supply by enlarging the mains and providing a new reservoir on Ivythorn Hill, and a starting date has been agreed for the early part of 1969. When the new reservoir has been completed, every part of the district will be adequately supplied with a piped water supply.

Natural Fluoride Content of Water Supplies

			<u>Av. Fluoride p.p.m. as F</u>
Millyard Supply	...	...	0.06
Millhead Supply	...	...	0.10
Honeyhurst Supply	...	...	0.12
Cheddar Supply	...	...	0.12

D.E. CLARE

N.E. WHITBY

